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Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 L-02 H-02 PA-02 PRS-01 USIA-15 SAJ-01

NEA-10 AF-10 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 INR-07 NSAE-00

NSC-05 RSC-01 SP-02 SS-15 OMB-01 IO-10 ACDA-10 AEC-07

CEA-01 CIEP-02 COME-00 EB-07 FPC-01 INT-05 SAM-01

OES-05 STR-04 TRSE-00 FRB-01 FEA-01 XMB-04 OPIC-06

LAB-04 SIL-01 /160 W
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R 021537Z DEC 74
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6173
INFO AMEMBASSY BONN
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN
AMEMBASSY DUBLIN
AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG
AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS
USMISSION OECD PARIS
AMCONSUL BELFAST
AMCONSUL EDINBURGH
AMCONSUL LIVERPOOL

UNCLAS SECTION 01 OF 02 LONDON 15708

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, EEC, UK
SUBJECT: LABOR PARTY CONFERENCE: SCHMIDT URGES CONTINUED
BRITISH MEMBERSHIP IN EEC

REF: LONDON 15679
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SUMMARY: GERMAN CHANCELLOR HELMUT SCHMIDT, SPEAKING AS SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC PARTY (SDP) FRATERNAL DELEGATE, URGED LABOR PARTY TO RECOGNIZE ITS SELF INTEREST AND SUPPORT SOCIALIST SOLIDARITY BY REMAINING IN EEC. HIS STATEMENT WAS WARMLY APPLAUDED, DESPITE EARLIER MEDIA SPECULATION THAT RABID LABOR PARTY ANTI-MARKETEERS WOULD STAGE WALK-OUT IF HE RAISED COMMON MARKET ISSUE. END SUMMARY

1. SPEAKING TO LABOR PARTY CONFERENCE AS SDP FRATERNAL REPRESENTATIVE, CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT NOVEMBER 30 PRAISED STRONG FRATERNAL BOND BETWEEN LABOR AND SOCIAL DEMOCRATIC PARTIES AND THANKED BRITISH FOR THEIR LONG SUPPORT OF FORMER CHANCELLOR BRANDT AND SDP ON WEST BERLIN AND GERMAN RECONCILLIATION. WHILE MAIN THRUST OF SCHMIDT'S ARTFUL AND GOOD-HUMORED SPEECH WAS DIRECTED AT NEED FOR CLOSER INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION TO OVERCOME "WORLD STRUCTURAL ECONOMIC AND ENERGY CRISIS AND SAVE OUR PEOPLE FROM TWIN EVILS OF UNEMPLOYMENT AND INFLATION," ITS MOST DRAMATIC POINT WAS HIS FRANK PLEA FOR CONTINUED UK MEMBERSHIP IN EEC. DENYING ANY INTENTION TO INTERFER WITH LABOR PARTY DECISION ON THIS ISSUE, SCHMIDT WENT ON TO SAY: "WHAT I REALLY WANT TO SAY -- EVEN AT THE RISK OF A WALK-OUT -- IS THAT YOUR COMRADES ON THE CONTINENT WANT YOU TO STAY, AND YOU WILL PLEASE HAVE TO WEIGH THIS. IF YOU TALK OF SOLIDARITY, YOU HAVE TO WEIGH IT. YOUR COMRADES ON THE CONTINENT BELIEVE THAT IT IS IN THEIR INTERESTS AS WELL AS IN YOURS, TOO." THIS STATEMENT DREW WARM APPLAUSE AND THE SPEECH ITSELF A FRIENDLY, PROLONGED OVATION. COMPLETE TEXT BEING POUCHED.

2. OTHER MAJOR POINTS IN SCHMIDT'S SPEECH INCLUDED FOLLOWING:

A. ECONOMIC/ENERGY CRISIS - "THE TREBLING OR EVEN QUADRUPLING OF OIL PRICES HAS LED TO LOSSES OF REAL INCOMES IN EVERY OIL-IMPORTING NATION AND HAS LED TO DEEP DEFICITS IN MOST OF THOSE NATIONS' BASIC BALANCES WITH THE OUTSIDE WORLD. THAT DOES IMPLY A DANGER TO WORLD TRADE AND TO ALL OF OUR EXPORTS AND THEREBY DOES IMPLY A DANGER TO OUR EMPLOYMENT ... LET ME SAY VERY FRANKLY THAT IF WE FAIL TO ESTABLISH CLOSE (INTERNATION-

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AL) COOPERATION IN ORDER TO COPE WITH THE RISKS OF THE PRESENT ECONOMIC PROBLEMS IN THE WESTERN DEMOCRATIC SOCIETIES, WE DO, I'M AFRAID, PUT POLITICAL STABILITY

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CEA-01 CIEP-02 COME-00 EB-07 FPC-01 INT-05 SAM-01

OES-05 STR-04 TRSE-00 FRB-01 FEA-01 XMB-04 OPIC-06

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6174
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AMEMBASSY PARIS
AMEMBASSY ROME
USMISSION EC BRUSSELS
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USMISSION OECD PARIS
AMCONSUL BELFAST
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AT RISK ALSO, AND MIGHT ENDANGER OUR PRIVILEGE TO ENJOY
LIVING IN A DEMOCRATIC SYSTEM ... MY GOVERNMENT DOES NOT
BELIEVE IN CONFRONTATION WITH THE OIL PRODUCING COUN-
TRIES. QUITE THE CONTRARY. NOW, SEVERAL PROPOSALS HAVE
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BEEN MADE IN THE LAST FEW MONTHS. I REFER TO THE RECENT PROPOSAL OF U.S. SECRETARY OF STATE KISSINGER, AND ALSO TO THE PROPOSALS OF FRENCH PRESIDENT GISCARD D'ESTAING A MONTH AGO. I AM CONVINCED THAT THE EXISTING IDEAS AND PROPOSALS COMPRISE ELEMENTS WHICH CAN BE SO ORGANIZED AS TO FIT INTO A SINGLE SCHEME, A UNITED SCHEME. THEY WILL BE ATTRACTIVE, ALSO, TO THE OIL PRODUCING GOVERNMENTS."

B. MIDDLE EAST - THE ENERGY CRISIS IS "ENTANGLED WITH THE DANGEROUS TENSIONS AND THE STILL EXPLOSIVE SITUATION IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND WITH THE WORLD'S ABILITY TO COPE WITH THAT, WHICH I THINK OUGHT TO BE DONE ON THE BASIS OF UN RESOLUTION NO. 242, WHICH IS EXACTLY, AS I KNOW, THE POSITION WHICH THE BRITISH LABOR GOVERNMENT IS PURSUING. I AM CONVINCED THAT BOTH ISRAEL AND THE ARABIC STATES MUST BE DEEPLY INTERESTED IN NORMALIZING THE SITUATION."

C. RELATIONS WITH USSR - "I HAVE JUST COME BACK FROM A VISIT WITH MR. BREZHNEV, DURING WHICH I GOT THE CLEAR IMPRESSION THAT THE SOVIET LEADERS ARE SERIOUSLY INTERESTED IN THE CONTINUATION OF DETENTE. THEY REPRESENT A VERY POWERFUL STATE, ON THE OTHER HAND, AND A VERY POWERFUL ALLIANCE. THEREFORE WE OUGHT TO BE CAREFUL IN ORDER TO MAINTAIN THE BALANCE OF POWER."

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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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TAGS: PINT, UK, EEC, PARLIAMENTARY LABOR PARTY, (SCHMIDT, HELMUT)
To: STATE
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